



Giving Thanks with Judith

By Brenda M. Weaver

Arriving at the well-kept farm of John and Lydia Reiff, I noticed a newly constructed wheelchair ramp. When I approached the front door, I paused and decided not to knock. Through the window I saw a hospital bed with the covers thrown back, as if the occupant had left it in glad abandon. When I knocked at the side door, I was greeted by a smiling Lydia Reiff—and the welcoming aroma of freshly baked chocolate chip cookies.

The large kitchen was obviously a place of family activity. On this day a second table held a big batch (or batches?) of cooling cookies. And beyond the cookies, sat a fifteen-year-old girl in a large recliner. Judith was embroidering and visiting with a friend. The quick smile and relaxed face of the teen belied the trauma she had recently experienced.

Lydia, the girl's mother, and I struck up a motherly conversation. "I am trying to catch up on my baking for the Christmas cookie swap," she said. "Usually we exchange them around Thanksgiving time."

"Speaking of Thanksgiving, I have something to give you." I handed Judith a stack of literature from our church, each paper containing several stories or articles. The story on the top paper was entitled "An Unforgettable Thanksgiving." "I suppose your family will also have an unforgettable Thanksgiving this year."

"We will," Lydia said, and Judith laid aside her embroidery and nodded her head.

"Do you remember the accident?" I asked Judith. She shook her head and the smile still played hide and seek on her young face. I had to agree with her mother; trauma related amnesia is a blessing from God.

Judith and her family and friends have much to be thankful for. On Sunday, October 31st, Judith and her cousin, Mary Jane Martin, were riding bike on the shoulder of Route 45, toward their homes near Hartleton, when Judith was struck from behind by a passing vehicle. Judith's last memory of that afternoon was saying good-bye to two other biking friends as their ways parted. Her next memory is waking up in the hospital and not knowing where she was at.

For Mary Jane the memories are very real. Quite suddenly her dear friend and

(Continued on page 2)

Millmont Mailbox by Postmaster Sam Smith



Many changes have been occurring at the Millmont Post Office in the past few months. A new parking lot and a "facelift" around the outside of the building with new siding around the base of the building and new trim around the roof. Inside changes are shortly forthcoming.

I have an update on the Ronald Reagan stamp, it was unveiled in November and will be released in February in conjunction with his birthday. In other stamp news, two Christmas stamps are now available: the Madonna and Child, and the Santa ornament stamps, which I think are much nicer than last years' holiday stamp issues.

Here are some holiday mailing tips for you. #1. Most important: Mail Early. Like many people, I hang up the cards I receive and get to enjoy them longer when they arrive early. #2. Always put your return address on the envelope or package, so they can be returned if undeliverable. This is also a great time to advise people you don't have contact with often of your correct 911 address! #3. Make sure to send Priority packages and 1st class letters and cards to servicemen in time for them to receive them by Christmas. Deadlines for APO/FPO 093 is December 6th, for all other APO/FPO addresses, mail by December 11. #4. For last minute gifts, Priority mail will be delivered in 2-3 days and Express Mail will even be delivered on Christmas day in many locations. The Millmont Post Office will be closed on Saturday, December 25th to celebrate Christmas and on Saturday January 1st for New Years day.

(Continued from page 1)

cousin lay in a tangled heap, pale and unresponsive. *Is she dead?* Mary Jane wondered. The experience could only have been horrific for this fifteen-year-old as she recalled the recent death of her three-year-old brother.

Help soon arrived and friends phoned Judith's parents. "Oh please let her live until we can talk to her," Lydia prayed en route to the accident scene. Already Judith had been loaded in the ambulance. She did not respond to her mother's request to "Squeeze my hand if you can hear me, Judith." After she was stabilized, Judith was life-flighted to the trauma center.

In the hospital, Judith did respond but due to her injuries was kept heavily sedated. She suffered a concussion, a broken collar bone, a fractured hip, and a shattered pelvis.

"The doctor told us that some people die with injuries like hers. He said she is a strong girl," related her mother. Another thing to Judith's advantage is her high pain tolerance, which her parents noted when she was just a young child. When I asked if she had a lot of pain she shrugged her shoulders and said, "Some." Amazing, considering that sixteen screws and plates hold her shattered pelvis bones together. "Some of them will be removed eventually," her mother said, "and some of them will be permanent."

Judith's prognosis is good, but she will be unable to walk for three months while her hip and pelvis heal. That is a lot of sitting for a girl who is used to being active. She is especially disappointed that she will have to temporarily give up her newly acquired privilege - going away with friends on Sunday afternoons. When Judith turned fifteen, her parents allowed her to go to functions with the other youth. Her birthday was in August and she was looking forward to playing volley ball this fall, and watching hockey games at local ponds this winter. When she asked the doctor if she could ice skate this winter he said, "Maybe roller-blading in the spring."

"We feel very fortunate," said her mother, "when we remember that she could be wheelchair bound for life." She went on to say that she tries to make Judith's days productive. Along with folding laundry, there are quilt patches to embroider, and she plans to learn to sew her own dresses. Not all Judith's goals are work related. She has also been practicing playing the harmonica and the accordion - skills she has been hoping to improve. She is enjoying filling a scrapbook with pages of cheer given by friends and extended family. She also receives a fair amount of visitors. On the day I visited, Judith's friend, Marion Hoover was also visiting. Before I left, her cousin, Mary Jane, came carrying a wrapped package. Soon the three teens were in a circle and Judith opened the gift. A small pillow seemed like just the right gift for a girl who shifts gingerly in a recliner or her wheelchair. The message on the pillow was especially touching to these cousins who had faced a traumatic experience together:

"A cousin is an angel
who shares your family tree."

The circle of three fifteen-year-old girls is often a circle of four neighbors, with neighbor, Loretta Zimmerman, included. Certainly their company, and the care from her family, has a lot to do with Judith's recovery.

While the girls visited, barn chores were mentioned. "Did you enjoy barn chores?" I asked Judith. There was a pause followed by some giggles.

"Well, she did them," Mary Jane said with a grin.

"I'd love to be out there right now," Judith replied wistfully.

When I visited, Thanksgiving day was only two days away. The Reiff family was anticipating a Thanksgiving dinner prepared and brought to their home by John's brother and wife, Allen and Dorothy Reiff. John's parents also planned to join them for the meal. Not only was Judith receiving support from her friends, her family is as well. And they will have a lot to be thankful for.

It did not occur to me until I left the Reiff home, that nothing was even mentioned about the person who was driving the vehicle that collided with Judith's bicycle. Those who accept the sovereignty of God know an uncharacteristic peace and forgiveness. For all of us the accident is a reminder to ride and drive carefully.

Keep your chin up, Judith. Not many teens can lie in bed and blow a whistle to get their parents attention and service! John and Lydia, may God give you extra strength and grace as you care for Judith and the rest of the family. Imagine how happy she will be to mow lawn and pitch hay to the cows after months of sitting! Mary Jane, may God pour His amazing grace over your painful memories. To all of Judith's family and friends, enjoy a grateful holiday season blessed by the presence of Almighty God.

Deep down in every man, woman, and child is the fundamental idea of God. It may be obscured by calamity, by pomp, by worship of other things, but in some form or other it is there. For faith in a Power greater than ourselves, and miraculous demonstrations of that power in human lives, are facts as old as man himself. A.A.



BIRD TALK

By Jim McCormick

“The sign read: THE GOLDFINCHES ARE BACK.” Suddenly, it was winter. That was the thought that came to my mind early in November, as I walked along Canada Drive. All the leaves had fallen or had been blown down by the windstorm. The only birds I saw were the familiar winter birds: the Downy Woodpeckers flittering from branch to trunk, the Nuthatches calling to each other, and even a small band of Juncos flew up to confirm the feeling of winter.

In a somewhat futile attempt to cheat winter, we recently took a late trip down the coast, hoping to hold onto fall for just a little longer. In Wilmington, North Carolina, I saw a sign for a Wild Birds Unlimited store. *“The sign read: THE GOLDFINCHES ARE BACK.”* It made me think. I know that most Goldfinches do migrate (most of ours don’t), but it was the realization that ‘their’ Goldfinches return when the males are in their drab winter coat. For us, the sight of the bright-yellow spring garb of the Goldfinch is a welcome sign of spring. As we traveled farther south, it was like watching the process of fall in reverse. The trees started to have leaves again; first colored, then becoming green again. By the time we reached Florida it was summer again. We went as far south as Cocoa Beach near Cape Canaveral, in northern Florida. I wondered if I was going to see many of our migrating birds, but all I saw was an unknown warbler in St. Augustine and a lot of Mockingbirds in the Carolinas and in Georgia (the Mockingbird is Georgia’s state bird, after all). What we did see, however, was numerous shore birds along the coast and aquatic birds in every swamp and ditch along the way. It is quite a treat to see those, to us, exotic birds everywhere. Along the coastal causeway there are Kingfishers on the wires, like Starlings here. Walking along the shore every morning as the sun came up, I was treated to the delightful display of little Plovers constantly running away from the waves, yet immediately returning to see what the waves had left behind. It seems like it would take much less energy just to fly away from the waves, but they run, with their little legs going as fast as they can possibly go. They are related to the Killdeers we have here; Killdeers are shorebirds that have moved inland and adapted to our environment. It is a whole new world of Gulls, Terns, Sandpipers and Willets. In the swamps there are Egrets, Herons, Ibises, and don’t forget those Alligators! There is a Wildlife Refuge on Merritt Island just north of the Kennedy Space Center where we have been returning to for some years now. On this trip we saw a Bobcat on the road as we entered the refuge. There is a one-way drive that takes the visitor through several watery habitats. You never know what you will see. Near the end of the drive, I spotted an alligator slightly submerged in a pool next to the road. We got out to look more closely. I noticed what looked like a twig moving in the water. It was a small, eighteen-inch little gator. Then there were three, then four, finally, we saw at least eight little gators within loving sight of their reptilian mother. You won’t see that around Millmont. We spent the days exploring the cobbled stoned side streets of old St. Augustine or the water swamps of northern Florida. The weather was perfect and we loved it. Somewhat reluctantly, however, we had to return to el Norte, and the reality of winter. And winter it was! It dropped down into the twenties and there were patches of snow on the ground the next morning—even the birds were hiding from the cold wind. Still, it is great to be back and taking my familiar walk, watching the changing light and the changing seasons, carrying my binoculars, and taking it all in.

Public meetings to be held in the Lewis Township Municipal Building

- ▶ Municipal Authority of Lewis Township, the first Tuesday of the month, beginning at 7:30 p. m.
- ▶ Lewis Township Board of Supervisors, the second Tuesday of the month beginning at 7:30 p. m.

CASH BINGO

The Lewis Township Village Green Recreation Association will be holding “Cash Bingo” in the township municipal building on the following dates: December 9th and 16th. The public is welcome to attend. All proceeds benefit the “Village Green Park” and the “Frank Long Little League Ball Field” on Libby Road. The doors open at 6:30 p.m. Food and refreshments will be available for purchase.

Sunshine is delicious, rain is refreshing, wind braces us up, snow is exhilarating; there is really no such thing as bad weather, only different kinds of good weather.

John Ruskin

RUHL FAMILY

By Eleanor (Hoffman) Hoy

George Philip Ruhl arrived in America on the ship "Molly," per research done by Israel T. Ruhl in 1924. This ship left Rotterdam, Germany and lastly from Deal. George Philip took the oath of allegiance 17 October 1741. He was taxable in Warwick Township, Lancaster County, PA in 1770 to 1779.

This George Philip Ruhl was the father of George Philip Ruhl who was born ca 1761 in Lancaster County, PA and died 29 April 1843 in Union County, PA, aged 82 years. He was buried in the old part of the Mifflinburg Cemetery, but I have never been able to locate the tombstone. He married Elizabeth Hocklander in Lancaster County, PA and she died at the age of 76 years, according to Israel T. Ruhl.

This George Philip Ruhl came to Lewis Township, Union County, PA from near Manheim Township, Lancaster County, PA. He bought a 206-acre farm per deed dated 1 September 1806 from George Reigh and wife, Sarah, for \$6,906.67.



The five children of David Morrison and Mary Alice (Crouse) Ruhl: Left to right: George Patterson Ruhl, Cottie Mae (Ruhl) Eberhart, Daniel Roy Ruhl, Bertha Catherine (Ruhl) Moyer, and Ray Oscar Ruhl.

It was mostly timber, being so thick with under brush, that it was necessary to cut this brush out in order to get to the larger trees which could be used as lumber. This brush was piled on a huge pile and set on fire.

There was a dwelling which consisted of a kitchen 22 x 30 feet with an upstairs of the same size. The steps to the second floor were on the outside of this building. In 1808, George Philip built a dwelling house in front of this original dwelling, per Israel T. Ruhl.

This 260-acre farm was later divided into several smaller farms and buildings built on them. The east tract was owned by a son, Jacob, and the west tract bought by his son, George, for \$4,431.68.

The original 260-acre farm was located four miles southwest of Mifflinburg, and one mile east of Swengel. My great-grandfather, David Ruhl, lived on Swengel Road in the early 1900's; it is assumed this was part of the original tract.

George Philip and Elizabeth (Hocklander) Ruhl were the parents of eight known children – (1) Philip Ruhl born 1790 in Lancaster County, PA, died in 1879 and buried in the Dreisbach Church Cemetery. He married Sarah Smith, the daughter of Dr. James and Catherine Brobst Smith, a physician in Mifflinburg. (2) John Ruhl, born in 1793 in Lancaster County, PA, died in 1882 and buried in the Laurel Run Cemetery, Laurelton, PA. He first married Mary Rockey, and after her death married Anna Moore Smith, widow of Jacob Smith. (3) George Ruhl, born 1795 in Lancaster County, PA, died in 1878 and buried in Rays Church Cemetery. He first married Anna Maria Antes, and after her death married Hannah Kauffman. (4) Jacob Ruhl, born 1797 in Lancaster County, PA, died in 1884 and buried in Rays Church Cemetery. He married Sarah Stitzer. (5) Catherine Ruhl married Conrad Fox. Conrad is buried in the Old Union Cemetery, Mazeppa, PA. But I never found a stone for Catherine. (6) Maria Ruhl's tombstone I could not read in Rays Church Cemetery. She married John Spigelmeyer who died in 1850. (7) Nancy Ruhl, sometimes referred to as Anna, born ca 1806, died in 1892 and buried in Rays Church Cemetery. She married Shem Knauss. (8) Margaret Ruhl, born 1809 in Union County, PA, died in 1887 and buried in New Berlin Cemetery. She married George Kleckner.

You will find the name George and Philip often carried on in the Ruhl family. Most families have many John's, Jacob's, William's, etc.

George Ruhl, son of George Philip and Elizabeth Hocklander Ruhl, born 29 December 1795 in Lancaster County, PA was my great, great, great-grandfather. He married Anna Maria Antes first and they had two children – (1) David Ruhl married Angeline Schock 30 August 1849 by Rev. J. P. Shindel, per book "Central PA Marriages" 1700-1896 by Charles A. Fisher. They were both residents of Middlecreek Township, Snyder County, PA when they were married. (2) George Philip Ruhl, my great, great-grandfather was born 2 January 1827 and died 6 October 1902. He is buried in Rays Church Cemetery. George married Catherine Morrison.

George Ruhl remarried after Anna Maria's death to Hanna Kauffman. They were the parents of six children – (1) Elizabeth Ruhl, born 1831, died in 1895 and buried in Dreisbach Cemetery. She married Amos Groff. (2) Benjamin Ruhl (3) Priscilla H. Ruhl, born 1839, died in 1907 and buried in Lewisburg Cemetery. She married Frank Schrack. (4) Samuel Franklin Ruhl, born in 1842, died in 1935 and buried in Rays Church Cemetery. He married Barbara Anna Paul (5) Henry W. Ruhl, born 1845, died in 1923 and buried in Rays Church Cemetery. He married Elizabeth Maister (6) Sarah Catherine

(Continued on page 9)

Raking Leaves on Maple Street

Is it safe to rake leaves on Maple Street yet? Here on Penn Street we have raked and burned a number of piles, but we have not reduced them all to ashes.

When precisely does one rake leaves in Millmont? Born and raised in the country, we practiced natural leaf disposal as much as possible. We simply waited until the last leaves tired of clinging to the trees. Then we raked up the few that had not been wind-driven across fields and streams and into a waiting forest.

Last week when warm weather had the neighborhood richly scented with leaf fires, I was completing projects indoors. A few days later, I watched with chagrin as the wind ripped the leaves from our yard, chased them across "The Green," and deposited them around the homes on Maple Street. I had to wonder if the Bilgers, the Failors, the McCormicks, and all the other fine folks on Maple Street were wondering why we folks on Penn Street waited so long to dispose of our leaves.

This week when balmy weather blessed November, I raked and burned leaves. Some of them. A fair amount of yellow ones still cling to our Silver Maple. By the color and shape of the leaves in the Editor's yard (next to ours), I realize many of them belong to our tree. Considering the fact that he and the Assistant Editor are completing their remodeling project and moving into their Penn Street home this week, I think we should rake "our" leaves from their yard. (Welcome home, Tony! Welcome to Millmont Janice!)

To you fine folks on Maple Street, be patient with us Penn Streeters. You could always pray for whipping winds from the southeast to blow the leaves back to our street. (Maybe next year they will.) Or perhaps we should all deposit them in huge piles on "The Green" and have an evening of old-fashioned jumping-in-the-leaves-kind-of-fun!

Wait a minute. Was that snow flurries? On second thought, maybe you should cuddle up with a blanket and a good book today. When you do go to the garage for the rake, get the snow shovel instead. Wet leaves might make the shovel-fulls a bit heavier, but you will be doing two jobs at once, and by then it *should* be safe to take care of leaves on Maple Street. (Our apologies extended.)

Raking leaves or watching them race across town, I enjoy living here. No one seems to get too upset about sharing leaves in this friendly village.

Later: Lines of this article chased each other around in my brain while I raked leaves in November. As it turned out, the next day it rained and wet, yellow leaves plastered themselves on the walks and lawn. Rather than raking the Editor's yard, our family and others helped them move furniture. When I asked how else we might be of assistance, Tony said, "The best way you could help would be to write an article for The Millmont Times." At his suggestion I visited and interviewed Judith Rieff—the young girl who was recently hit by a vehicle while riding her bicycle. The Editor thought a report on her progress would cheer people during this holiday season. In need of cheering himself, Tony faces unemployment after the recent closure of Pennsylvania House. Pray for him as he adjusts to the change. And be understanding if December's TMT is a bit late.

Put away your rakes on Maple Street. We will try again next year.

Recipe of the Month Sand Tarts From *The Catherman Family Cookbook*

2 C. sugar
1 C. butter
1 tsp. baking soda, dissolved in 1/2 C. milk
1 tsp. cream of tartar
4 eggs
1/2 tsp. salt
flour

Mix all ingredients together, except flour. Add flour to stiffen in order to roll out dough. Roll out dough on floured surface and cut with cookie cutter. Place on cookie sheets and bake at 375° until golden brown.

This recipe was submitted for publication in the Catherman Family Cookbook by Linda (Catherman) Walter and by Brenda (Snyder) Rishel.

Need a hand crafted holiday gift-giving idea? Try this one! Canned Applesauce Cake

Cream together:
2/3 C. shortening
3 1/3 C. sugar

Add the following ingredients and beat well:

4 large eggs
2 C. applesauce
3 1/3 C. flour
1/2 tsp. Baking powder
2 tsp. Baking soda
1 1/2 tsp. Salt
1 tsp. Cinnamon
1 tsp. Ground cloves

Add 1 1/3 C. raisins and 1 C. nuts of your choice (optional)

Grease (or spray) 8 wide-mouth pint jars. Fill jars 1/2 full. Place filled jars on cookie sheet(s). Bake at 325° for 1 hour. Remove jars one at a time. Clean any batter off jar rim. Seal with hot lids and rings. When cool, decorate jar with fabric and raffia and attach the recipe for gift giving..

Because this cake is baked in wide-mouth pint jars it is easily removed from the jar when ready to serve.



Meanderings

by

Hertha S. Wehr

Holidays 2004

By the time you read this Thanksgiving will have come and gone and we will be celebrating Christmas.

I hope you remembered to be thankful for all the blessings you received during the year. There were many Thanksgiving Services, many of them earmarking offerings for the less fortunate. Perhaps you shared your good fortune by contributing in that way. Anyway, I hope you had a holiday with friends or family and many good memories.

Once again I've been wonderfully blessed. I have friends and family who remember me and help me when I need it. That's how the remainder of the leaves got raked, and how I get "unstuck" when I'm at my wits end with a computer problem. And then there is that wonderful lady who cleans for me. The people who get my wood supply where it is needed, my thanks go out to all of them. Now on to the remaining holidays.

Christmas seems to come earlier each year. I can recall as a child I thought Christmas would never come. Now it seems to almost eclipse Thanksgiving. Is this because I'm getting older and time goes by quicker, or is it because we're not allowed to forget Christmas by all of the merchandising?

I recall last year I sort of admonished you readers not to spend more money than you could afford. My same thoughts apply this year but I would add that you should give plenty of hugs and kisses, not only to children but to family and friends. As for the children, you might have trouble finding them among the abundance of toys everyone seems to receive.

I'm encouraged by some of the news that tells us some charitable organizations are giving sweaters, caps, etc., along with food for holiday meals. The past few years it has almost seemed as if the toy give away program was supreme.

Do people still play games? When I was a child, games to play together were popular. I recall Tiddly Winks, Uncle Wiggly, Flinch, Parcheesi, Checkers and the ever popular Carom. I think Carom was where I first learned to figure out how hard to snap the rings and to aim them so they hit the pocket; a good lesson in logic. As I got older, I was included in the card games my older siblings played. At about twelve years of age I got a Monopoly game. Many evenings, and sometimes summer afternoons were spent playing with the neighborhood kids. This was a game we played with our children and I understand it's still popular today.

Games we played with our children included Sorry, Clue, Pit, Touring, Stock Market, Scrabble and some of the hold-overs from years gone by. Of course, the fifty-two card deck provided a variety of games. When I think about it, I realize the grandchildren also played many of these games when they congregated at Grandpa's and Grandma's house.

If I seem to be waxing nostalgic, it's only that I see so many fractured families and I wonder why. Does spending time together help? We can hardly get to know each other and our children by each having a television set and a computer to entertain ourselves.

Christmas activities and church services abound so take some time to do some things with family and friends. Be of good cheer, give with love, receive with graciousness, and may God Bless You All.

Happy Holidays from the Editor and his wife!

During this time of year when we are distracted by shopping, decorating, cooking, cleaning, and working, perhaps we should take time to remember the real meaning of Christmas. Let us be thankful for the gift that God has given us, His Son. Share His love with your family, friends, and neighbors. We are so thankful for the new friendships that have developed over the past year, and look forward to the new year ahead. We extend our very best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy, and safe New Year to all of our subscribers. Happy Holidays from Tony & Janice Shively!

Thank You!!

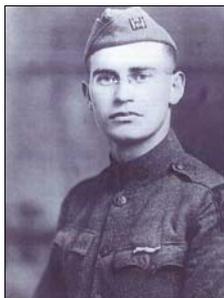
I would like to thank the following people for making a donation toward the publication of this newsletter: William & Pauline Shively, Millmont; Sharon Hartman, New Berlin; Mary Kahl, Millmont; Eugene & Darlene Hackenburg, Millmont; and Alma Bingaman, Watontown.

The following people have agreed to accept this newsletter over the Internet as a PDF, thus allowing me to reduce the monthly expenses associated with printing and mailing this publication. Terri Sheesley, Mifflinburg; and Edgar & Ruby Mitch, Laurelton; Bernie and Marge Schmader, Millmont. Anyone interested in signing up to receive a color version of the newsletter each month *at no charge* is encouraged to contact: tshively@evenlink.com. After December 7, 2004 the new email address for The Millmont Times will be: millmonttimes@dejazzd.com

I would also like to thank the following new mail subscribers: Kenneth Smith, Mifflinburg; Donald & Judy Everitt, Mifflinburg; John G. Catherman, Hatboro, PA; Margaret Moyer, Millmont; Levi Martin, Mifflinburg; Carol Shively, Indiana, PA; Timothy VonNeida, Montoursville, PA; Gloria Smith, Mifflinburg; Richard & Lucille Wenrich, Colby, WI; Jack Bowersox, Manheim, PA. Thanks also to all those who renewed their subscription to the newsletter for an additional year. Your support is what helps to make this newsletter possible, and as always it is greatly appreciated!!

Special thanks to Brenda M. Weaver and Eleanor H. Hoy for their contributions to this edition of TMT!!

Veterans Day



Tobias Sr.



Tobias O. Jr.



Glenn G.



James W.



Jessica Shively

Each year on November 11, Americans pause to honor the men and women in uniform who have served, and those who are currently serving, in the U. S. military. The Veterans Day holiday, originally known as "Armistice Day," can be traced to November 11, 1918. It was 11:00 a.m. on that day that the hostilities of World War I came to an end (the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month). Armistice Day officially received its name in America in 1926 through a Congressional resolution. It became a national holiday 12 years later by similar Congressional action. If the idealistic hope had been realized that World War I was "the War to end all wars," November 11 might still be called Armistice Day. But only a few years after the holiday was proclaimed, war once again broke out in Europe.

Veterans Day has special significance to one particular branch of the Catherman family who resided in Millmont for a number of years. The late Tobias O. Catherman Sr. (1896-1970) was a veteran of WW I. He was a member of Company B, 122nd Engineers. Years later, six of his sons followed in their father's footsteps by donning military garb. Those sons included, Clarence J., Tobias O. Jr., Robert M., Glenn G., Abraham L., and James W. Catherman.

Private Clarence J. Catherman, the eldest son of Tobias Sr. and Elizabeth (Derr) Catherman, died stateside in a mishap while on furlough from Ft. Indiantown Gap. On April 5, 1941, he and Harold Kaler, both members of Company L, 109th Field Infantry, were en route to their hometown of Millmont for a family visit. While walking alongside the highway between Kulpmont and Shamokin an automobile struck and fatally injured the twenty year old soldier. He is buried in the Swengel Cemetery.

The names of Clarence J. Catherman and his younger brother Tobias O. Catherman Jr. are both listed on the bronze plaques of the Union County WW II Honor Roll monument. Their names are among the more than two thousand Union County residents who wore the uniform, and served their country during WW II. That monument is located in the Mifflinburg Community Park off of 8th Street.

The dedication of the WW II monument in Mifflinburg in November followed on the heels of the dedication of the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C., six months earlier. That monument was dedicated on Saturday, May 29, 2004. Millmont area resident, Mary Fox, who served as an Army nurse in WW II, attended the dedication of the National Monument. While visiting the Nurses Memorial on Thursday, May 27, Mary and a friend, Thelma Greenwood, met an aide to former Senator Bob Dole. After returning to their hotel, Mary received word that she and Thelma were invited to have breakfast the next morning with the Senator. While seated at the breakfast table alongside Senator Dole and several other invited guests, President George W. Bush and Vice President Richard Cheney stopped at the table to greet Dole and his guests. Mary and Thelma then had the distinct honor of being photographed with the President.



Thelma Greenwood, President Bush, Mary Fox, and Robert Dole.



Clarence J.

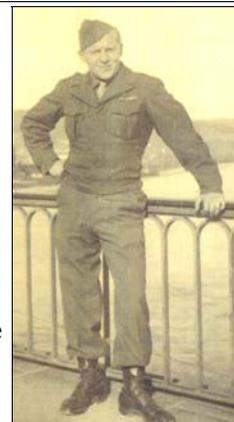


Robert M.



Abraham L.

Mifflinburg resident, Frank Raker, (right) son-in-law of the late Tobias O. Sr. and Elizabeth (Derr) Catherman, spent time in France during his military service in WW II. Raker recalled reminiscing with his late father-in-law about the fact that the two were both in the same region of Europe during their respective military service. Tobias Catherman Sr. was stationed in France during his military service in WW I, while Franklin Raker, a soldier in the 66th Division, was stationed there nearly 28 years later.



Penlines from my Kitchen to Yours

By Lucy Hoover

October 16, 2004

Brother Elam and Maria Brubacker of Mifflinburg bought a house and nine acres for \$188,000 close to Penns Creek. They will not be moving into it at the present time.

October 20

Pauline was sitting backwards on a kitchen chair and stuck her leg between the spokes of the chairs' back. I could not get her leg out again, and she was wailing. So I sent Elsie out to fetch her Dad and a saw to cut those spokes off. But by turning her leg on a different angle, Curvin freed her without using the saw.

Menno and Elaine Zimmerman's six-year old son, Leon of Millmont, is walking with crutches because of a sprain he got when his swing that he was swinging on broke down.

October 23

Neighbors Norman and Alta Reiff have their first child, a son named Brandon. Grandparents are Isaac and Ruth Reiff of Mifflinburg, and Aden and Irene Weaver of Lewisburg.

October 25

Larry and Miriam Nolt of Middleburg have a son named Laverne. He has one sister. Grandparents are Lester and Martha Nolt of Lewisburg, and Phares and Anna Horning of Mifflinburg.

October 26

Esra and Lena Zimmerman of Mifflinburg moved off the farm and into a house across the street, a little ways down the road. Their son, Ammon, will take over on the farm where his bride-to-be, Mary Joy Hoover (daughter of Lewis and Verna of Lewisburg), will join him after the wedding, which is planned to be on Thanksgiving Day.

October 31

This afternoon there was a singing for the married folks at Allen and Marian Zimmerman of Lewisburg. They had it in the new building that they want to use for their engine remodeling business.

John Aaron and Lydia Reiff's daughter, Judith (age 15), of Millmont was hit while biking along Route 45. She was lifeflighted to Danville, and has a concussion, broken collar bone, hip, and a crushed pelvis.

November 1

Sarah Ann martin of Lewisburg is scheduled to have surgery.

November 4

Roy Weaver (23), son of Paul and Lucy of Lewisburg, was working in their wood-working shop at home and accidentally cut a part of three of his fingers off of his right hand. It is good that he is left-handed.

November 7

Brother John Isaac Hoover family and us were invited to Henry and Martha Oberholtzer for dinner. In the afternoon us women walked over to visit Joyce Long.

November 8

Laverne and Priscilla Zeiset have a daughter named Jennikah. She is their first child. Grandparents are Jonas and Esther Zeiset of Lewisburg, and Lester and Marlene Martin of Mifflinburg.

Leroy and Jane Zimmerman of Millmont had a chimney fire that spread in the walls of the house. The fire was brought under control in a short period of time by the fire company.

November 9

Judith Reiff (15) daughter of John Aaron and Lydia, came home from the hospital but will need time to recover yet. Her address is: 760 Cold Run Rd., Millmont, PA 17845.

November 11

The girls and I went to Chris and Wilma Brubacker's to make candy. We dipped pretzels, cookies, coconut balls, peppermint patties, and peanut butter logs. Sister-in-law Laurretta Brubacker and her sister, Mary Ann, were also there. Ruth Sauder was our babysitter.

November 13

The Paul Kilmer farm in Snyder County, along Route 104, was sold. The buyers were Phares and Anna Horning of Mifflinburg.

Looking Back

The article below was originally published in The Mifflinburg Telegraph on December 15, 1932 It is copied here verbatim.

Millmont Mail

Carrier, 72, is

Struck By Train

H. W. Dewitt, of Millmont, aged 72 years escaped serious injury early Monday morning when the 6:56 train struck the hand truck he was pushing.

Mr. DeWitt, one of Millmont's most highly esteemed men delivers mail from the railroad station to the post office. He misjudged the distance between the track and the truck. The approaching engine hit the truck whirling it around, throwing him to the ground causing painful bruises.

Max Dale is substituting for Mr. DeWitt. He has been unable to carry on his duties since the accident.

Hugs for a friend

If I could catch a rainbow
I would do it Just for you
And share with you Its beauty
On the days You're feeling blue
If I could build a mountain
You could call Your very own
A place to find serenity
A place to be alone
If I could Take your troubles
I would toss them In the sea
But all these things I'm finding
Are impossible for me
I cannot build a mountain
Or catch a rainbow fair
But let me be What I know best
A friend That's always there

Norma J. Sauers



Here's A
Free Hug...

(Continued from page 4)

Ruhl, born 1850, died in 1919 and buried in Rays Church Cemetery. She married Christian Schnure.

George Philip and Catharine Morrison Ruhl were the parents of four children – (1) Israel Thomas Ruhl, born 1850, died 1930 and buried in Dreisbach Cemetery. He first married Sadie Jane Biehl, and after her death Lizzie Hubler. This is the man who wrote the booklet, “Records of the Ruhl Family” 1741 – 1924, to which I have added dates. (2) Franklin Ruhl is buried in the Rays Church Cemetery, but I was unable to read the dates. (3) Mary H. Ruhl died 12 May 1901 in Rockford, Illinois where she is buried. She married Andrew J. Harter (4) David Morrison Ruhl, born 1860, died 18 September 1919 and buried in Old Cedars Cemetery, Swengel, PA. He married Mary Alice Crouse 27 September 1885 in Mifflinburg, PA by Rev. J G Anspach. Mary Alice was born 25 July 1860, the daughter of Daniel & Catharine Frederick Crouse, and died 17 April 1919 and buried with her husband.

David Morrison & Mary Alice (Crouse) Ruhl, my great-grandparents, were the parents of five children – (1) Bertha Catherine Ruhl born 1887 in Lewis Township, Union County, PA died in 1964 and buried in Lewisburg Cemetery. She married S. Clarence Moyer in 1952. He was married before, and his first wife died in 1950. (2) Cottie Mae Ruhl, my grandmother, was born in 1888 in Lewis Township, Union County, PA, died in 1957 and buried in Rays Church Cemetery. She married Cyrus Lester Eberhart (3) George Patterson Ruhl, born in 1890 in Lewis Township, Union County, PA, died in 1964 and buried in Old Cedars Cemetery, Swengel, PA. He married Minnie Mae Hufnagle in 1919. (4) Ray Oscar Ruhl, born in 1893 in Lewis Township, Union County, PA, died in 1964 and buried in Eastside Cemetery, Mifflinburg, PA. He married Ida Alice Zechman in 1917. (5) Daniel Roy Ruhl, born 1896 in Lewis Township, Union County, PA, died in 1972 and buried in Old Cedars Cemetery, Swengel, PA. He married Mildred Evelyn Burd in 1917.

Cottie Mae & Cyrus Lester Eberhart were the parents of six children – (1) Mary Catherine Eberhart, born 1907, died in 1991 and buried in Eastside Cemetery, Mifflinburg, PA. She married Edmund Douty Book Shively (2) Martha Irene Eberhart, born 1908, died in 1981 and buried in the Hartleton Hill Cemetery. She married Bruce Norman Wagner (3) Mildred Elizabeth Eberhart, my mother, born 1911 died in 1994 and buried in Hartleton Hill Cemetery. She married Maynard Elwood Hoffman. (4) Harold Ruhl Eberhart, born 1913, died in 1999 and buried in Rays Church Cemetery. He married Bertha Elizabeth Sanders. (5) Myron Lee Eberhart, born 1915, died in 1987 and buried in Rays Church Cemetery. He married Helen Elizabeth Siegfried. (6) Charles William Eberhart was born 26 November 1927 and died 29 November 1927. He is buried in Rays Church Cemetery. All the children of Cottie & Cyrus were born in Lewis Township, Union County, PA.

There was an excellent article on Joseph Ritner Ruhl, son of Jacob & Sarah Stitzer Ruhl in the July 2004 issue of The Millmont Times.

There are many Ruhl's still in Union County as well as descendants not bearing the Ruhl name.

I Auto Quit

by Miriam Hoffman

Hubby went out hunting
To get a buck he said,
I'm sure he didn't look for deer,
He bought a car instead.

The next day found it snugly parked,
Outside in our shed.
He started tearing it apart,
Even 'fore we went to bed.

He tore the engine all apart
Each nut and bolt came out,
And when I had to wash them up,
I felt that I should shout.

This is your hobby dear, not mine,
So why don't you proceed,
To work upon the car yourself,
I'm sure it's what you need.

Since then I've shared my table,
Basement, yes, bedroom too,
With precious parts restored with care,
To keep them clean and looking new.

Now many months have passed since then,
And I am still not done,
With working on "his" hobby,
And I can't help but feel glum.

Each day since then I've heard him say,
I'd like to paint tonight,
So start while I'm at work,
And sand it down just right.

We're still not done, I'm sanding,
While he applies the paint.
And each day I pretend to be
Something that I ain't.

I've never like to work on cars,
Not even a little bit.
And after this ones finished,
I'll feel "I Auto Quit."

*Miriam wrote this after her husband, Merlyn,
came home from a hunting trip. The car he
bought was a 1931 Plymouth.*

Hartleton Union Church Annual Christmas Celebration

On Monday evening, December 13th, at 7:00 the Millmont Mennonite Church Youth Group will be presenting Christmas carols, acappella, at the historic Union Church on Catherine Street, south of Route 45, in Hartleton. This is sure to be a time of rejoicing in the holiday spirit. Come out and join us as we celebrate the holiday season. Light refreshments will be served following the presentation. If you need directions or have questions, please call Janice at 922-4297.

Bible Quiz

Dana Hoover, 1755 Polly Pine Road, Millmont, PA 17845, was the winner of the November Bible Quiz. The correct answer to the question: Jared was the second oldest person recorded in the Bible. He lived 962 years. The individual responsible for the Bible Quiz each month would like to thank the following people for submitting an answer to the question last month: Lena Susan, Mifflinburg; Joseph Martin, Millmont, and Martha Hoover, Millmont, PA.

The Bible Quiz question for December is: What was the name of the angel who said to the virgin Mary "Hail, thou that art highly favored, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women"? The person selected with the correct answer will receive \$10. Send your answer along with your name and address to: Bible Quiz, Post Office Box 8, Swengel, PA 17880.

Please have your answer mailed to this address by the 20th of the month.

Remembrance

By James Russell Chambers

Sugar Cure For Meat

I was born on the Chamber farm in Central Pennsylvania, the early part of the 20th century. This farm was deeded to my ancestor, Robert Chambers, in 1769 from the Penns.

Preservation of food occupied much of our time. Butchering and curing of meat each fall when the weather turned cold was always an interesting and exciting event. Sugar cure for pork hams, shoulders, bacon, and beef or deer hams.

For 100 pounds of raw meat: 3 pints salt, 2 oz. Black pepper, 2 oz. Saltpeter, 1/2 lb. Brown sugar. Dissolve saltpeter in a little warm water, then mix all together. Rub half of the cure on the meat and let lay for 5 days. Rub the meat again with the other half of the mixture. Let lay for five more days before hanging in the smokehouse to smoke. The hogs bladder was cleaned, then filled with sausage. One coat of the "sugar cure" was rubbed on and then it too was smoked. "Sugar cured" smoked meat would keep indefinitely. While curing, we laid the meat on benches in our summerhouse where it was cool.

Note - Be careful not to use too much saltpeter as that makes the meat hard and dry. Some folks omit the saltpeter altogether.

Four or five times during the next three weeks, Dad would build a smoke fire in the smokehouse. He liked to use sassafras or apple wood fires covered with sawdust which gave a heavy dense smoke.

CAMP PENN LICK

By Nelson Clements, Levittown, PA

Camp Penn Lick was operated from 1925 until 1927 by the Sunbury Council Boy Scouts. The camp was located a half mile west of Pardee in Union County on the Pardee side of Penns Creek near where the Penn Lick Run enters Penns Creek. It was leased from the Pennsylvania Department of Forest and Waters for the price of \$11.00 a year. The insurance for camp was \$14.02. The camp was used for both summer and winter camping.

There were some facilities erected at the camp by the scouts. They were a combination of wood framing and canvas. The camp was not only used for summer and winter camping but was also used by scouting adults, hunters, fishermen, and the State Health Department throughout the year.

In 1926 120 Scouts enjoyed camping there. After the 1927 season the camp was closed when the Sunbury Council became the Susquehanna Valley Area Council, which included Northumberland, Snyder and Union Counties.



Letters to the Editor

Hi! Picked up The Millmont Times at Dorman's Store. I grew up in Millmont and know the Shively family. From Greene, Jacob and his family, your father included. Looking forward to receiving The Times. John G. Catherman, Hatboro, PA.

Please renew my subscription (added a little extra for postage). Our original subscription was a Christmas gift from our daughter & son-in-law, Cathy and Greg Ely. Like the paper so we renewed the last few years.

Thanks. Russell Bailey, Selinsgrove, PA.

November 16, 2004 Dear Mr. Shively, The enclosed check is to pay for a one year subscription, by mail, of the "Millmont Times." A friend inspired our interest in your monthly publication by sharing a few issues with us. Please mail "The Millmont Times" to us. Donald and Judy Everitt, Mifflinburg, PA. Thank you—will be looking forward to the arrival of our first issue!

The photograph at the top left hand corner of page one is the home at 44 Penn Street, Millmont, circa 1950. Since its construction in 1886, this property has been home to just four families: Charles Orwig, Jimmy Catherman, George Wert Sr., and Tony & Janice Shively.

Lewis Township News

Lewis Township Village Green Recreation Association.

Lewis Township Board of Supervisors - Minutes not available.

Municipal Authority of Lewis Township - Courtesy of Marge Schmader

The regular meeting of the Municipal Authority of Lewis Township was held on November 3, 2004 at the Lewis Township Municipal Building, Millmont. The following, being members of the board of authority named in the articles of incorporation, were present: Jim Sanders, Ken Bair, Steve Bilger and Marge Schmader. Also present were Solicitors Ray and Melissa Lobos, HRG Rep. Rob Rowe, Plant Manager Walt Scholl.

*The minutes of the October meeting were approved as printed. The treasurer's report was given. The checking account balance was \$8,355.80 and \$96,637.69 in CDs and was approved and filed for audit. A motion was made by Marge Schmader to pay the bills and seconded by Steve Bilger – so moved. The budget was gone over. A motion by Ken Bair to raise the monthly fee from \$40/month to \$45/month was made and died as a result of no second. It was suggested that we look into Block Grant money from SEDA-COG, etc. rather than up the fees. The reasoning behind this is that the computer needs upgraded (approx. \$20,000), a fence needs to be installed (\$15,000 to 20,000) and line checks need to be made with a camera (\$800/day for 3 to 4 days). We have had a deficit for the last two months because of repairs at the plant. Marge made a motion to tentatively approve the budget till next meeting and was seconded by Steve Bilger – so moved.

CORRESPONDENCE:

*We received the bill for the bond for Jim Sanders, Chairman, from Keystone Insurers Group but not for our treasurer. Marge will call them and ask them to send the bill for our treasurer so we can pay them together.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

*Rob explained the letter we received about the confirmation letter to do an update of our Rules & Regulations.

PLANT OPERATOR UPDATE:

*Walt ordered stones and fixed the road to the plant with 2 loads of sub base. He also got a load of 3-B for the marshes. We won't know if the supervisors will pay the bill until their meeting next Tuesday.

OLD BUSINESS:

*Letters of delinquency were sent to several customers.

*Melissa sent a letter to the Township Supervisors re: a proposed amendment to the lease. She got a response from the Supervisors with an addendum to the Lease Agreement. Marge made a motion that our chairman and secretary sign the addendum and was seconded by Steve Bilger – so moved.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business.

Passage



Marie Ernestine Sampsell, 83, of 700 Fairground Road entered into eternal rest on Friday, Nov. 19, 2004, at 1 p.m. in Georgeson Hospice House, Naples, Collier County, Florida. Marie was born on April 16, 1921, in Lewis Township, Union County, a daughter of the late Elmer William and Grace Leoda (Shirk) Blyler. She was united in marriage in the Swengel Lutheran Church on October 25, 1947, to Harold Rudolph "Hap" Sampsell, who survives.

Marie was a graduate of Mifflinburg High School Class of 1936 and retired in the early 1960's after serving as a postal clerk for 35 years in the Millmont Post Office. She served as the secretary of Christ's United Lutheran Church, Millmont, for many years. In recent years, Marie has been a homemaker.

She was an active member of Christ's United Lutheran Church, Millmont. She donated many hours to the work at the "4-Bells Church", where she had served as organist and choir director for many years; she prepared food and baked specialty pies for her churches and Hartley Township Community food stands at the Union County West End Fair. She also composed music and wrote lyrics for the church vacation Bible school and for other special church functions. For more than 10 years she sang with the Buffalo Valley Singers, Union County. She composed a musical selection for the singers to render during the Mifflinburg Bicentennial in 1992 entitled "Buggytown." Marie also composed and wrote two songs about Millmont, the town where she grew up. "The Millmont of Long Ago" and "The Millmont of Today" published in The Millmont Times in December 2002 and June 2003 respectively.

In 1936, fifteen year old Marie Sampsell became the first female to join the Millmont P. O. S. of A. Band, thus paving the way for several other young ladies to join the band.

Marie was a member of the Pennsylvania State Letter Carriers Assoc. Auxiliary and served as a delegate of the letter carriers association to both the state and national conventions. She was a past president of the Auxiliary of the Pa. State L.C.A. and was serving as the newsletter editor of the Union-Snyder-Northumberland District of the Letter Carriers Association.

Besides her husband of more than 57 years, Marie is survived by one daughter and son-in-law, Sharon A. and Douglas G. Denisen of Naples, Fla. Also surviving is one brother Kenneth E. Blyler of Levittown, as well as numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by one brother, Lionel Edward "Hap" Blyler, who died on Dec. 24, 2001, and by one sister, Helen Blyler, who died on June 15, 1919.

Marie was buried in the New Laurelton Cemetery, Hartley Township, Union County, PA.

From the diary of the late Elder Greene Shively, a resident of Millmont from 1918 until his death in 1954: *Sunday December 24, 1933. Clear, temperature 35-40. Present at Sunday School 86. Lesson Peace, Isaiah 11-1. Had a brief program, I repeated my poem and gave out over 100. Donny and Billy were with their mother to WKOK to broadcast. Jacob helped me get 75 poems ready to send out, also 30 to give out to Sugar Valley. The school boys & Edmund sang Christmas carols in Hartleton and Millmont.*

December Anniversaries

5-Dec-1959	Jacque and Julie Libby
5-Dec-1960	Gordon and Pauline Libby
5-Dec-1987	Perry and Brenda Klingman
7-Dec-1940	Orvis and Betty Wallace
10-Dec-1945	E. Walter and Sara Shirk
28-Dec-1950	Fred and Margaret Yarger
29-Dec-1957	Charles and Lois Feaster

December Birthdays

1 – Terry Witmer	17 – Oscar Maust
2 – Lisa Schramm	17 – Anna Maria Maust
2 – Alma Bingaman	18 – Leah Brubaker
3 – Gordon Libby	19 – Donna Maust
4 – Shanell Failor	21 – Anthony (TC) Guida
5 – Kimmy Smith	21 – Kathryn Wert
5 – Perry Klingman	22 – Pam Peffer
6 – Sandra Wagner	23 – Kurwin Martin
6 – Doris Fultz	24 – Ernest Boney
7 – Ivan Oberholtzer	24 – Shane Mattern
10 – Wilma Brubaker	24 – Jeremy Beaver
10 – Elaine Swartz	25 – Donald Shively
10 – Shawn Mattern	25 – LaRue Lyons
11 – Kyle Blyler	27 – Colin Camp
11 – Nancy Heckman	28 – Ronald Cunningham
11 – Curvin Hoover	28 – Etta Zimmerman
13 – Robert Vanatta	28 – Phares Zimmerman
14 – Levi Martin	29 – Linda Dorman
14 – Joe Schnure	29 – Bob Wagner
17 – David W. Diehl	

The Millmont Times is distributed during the first week of each month, and is available through mail subscription and the Internet. Mail subscriptions are \$8.00 for one year (12 issues). Internet subscriptions are available FREE to those who would like to receive the newsletter as a PDF each month. Adobe Acrobat Reader is required.

Please contact the address below if you are interested in subscribing, making a donation, submitting a story or article for publication, sending a gift subscription, changing your address, providing me with your email address, or contacting the editor and publisher. So that your material can be included in the next issue, please be sure to submit your information or photos prior to the 20th of the month.

The Millmont Times
 Post Office Box 3, Millmont PA 17845
 Telephone: (570) 922.4297 or E-mail:
millmonttimes@dejazzd.com

Change of Address

If your mailing or Internet address is changing, please let me know in advance so that I can make the necessary changes. Thank You.

The Millmont Times

P. O. Box 3

Millmont, PA 17845

Return Service Requested

**PRSR STD
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 MILLMONT PA
 PERMIT NO. 3**